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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

Executive Registry

82-0566/A

15 MAR 1982

Mr. J. Foster Collins  
Special Assistant to the Secretary  
(National Security)  
Department of the Treasury  
Washington, D. C. 20220

Dear Mr. Collins:

Thank you for your kind letter of 25 February requesting that the Treasury Department become a passive member of the NOIWON net.

I regret that your request cannot be approved at this time. In order to preserve the integrity of the system as the principal link between the national-level operations centers and the White House, both for alerting and for immediate and often sensitive tasking of our collection assets, I believe we must limit the network to the present subscribers.

I am nevertheless keenly aware of the need of Secretary Regan and his staff to be alerted to critical intelligence on fast-breaking situations, and have undertaken to ensure that this is done. Each Operations Center--CIA, NSOC, DIA/NMIC and State--has agreed to alert your Watch Office unilaterally to any developments that warrant Treasury's immediate attention. I am sure that the centers will readily recognize the economic dimensions of major crises.

You might, however, want to provide for their guidance a list of requirements covering those topics that seem less obvious but that are of particular significance to the Treasury Department.

Sincerely,

/s/ B. R. Inman

B. R. INMAN  
Admiral, U.S. Navy  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

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SUBJECT: Treasury Department Request for Passive Access to the NOIWON Network

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(12 Mar 82)

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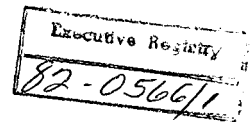
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DDI- 809-82/1

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12 March 1982



MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM: Douglas J. MacEachin  
Deputy Director, Current Production and Analytic  
Support

SUBJECT: Treasury Department Request for Passive Access to  
the NOIWON Network

1. The request from Foster Collins to have Treasury become a passive member of the NOIWON network is the latest of several attempts, primarily by Treasury but also by Commerce and Energy, to become listeners on the NOIWON network. These requests have always been vetted with the chiefs of the Washington area operations centers and the White House Situation Room, and have been unanimously turned down.

2. The refusals have been based on the following considerations:

a. The NOIWON is the vehicle through which the national-level intelligence and operations centers alert the White House and the NSC principals; its extension to subscribers in other departments would seriously stretch need-to-know;

b. An estimated 90% of the reporting [redacted]  
[redacted]-that triggers NOIWON calls is unevaluated and could thus mislead passive listeners who are not regularly engaged in intelligence collection and production;

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c. The NOIWON is also used to levy immediate tasking on collection assets; its extension could thus risk disclosure of sensitive sources and methods;

d. Those topics upon which NOIWONs are convened very seldom involve clearly identifiable interests of Treasury, Commerce or Energy;

e. The addition of each additional instrument--passive or active--to the network noticeably degrades the quality of speakers' voices, thus increasing the risk that critical information could be misunderstood.

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SUBJECT: Treasury Department Request for Passive Access to the  
NOIWON Network

3. As in the draft response to Mr. Collins' request, all operations centers have offered unilateral alerting to Treasury, Commerce and Energy based on requirements lists to be provided by each of these departments. To date, only Energy has complied.

4. Secretary Regan receives the National Intelligence Daily and the State Morning Summary; his senior staff also receives the NID. The CIA and State Operations Centers brief the Treasury Watch Office whenever fast-breaking events clearly involve Treasury's equities, and the Department also receives relevant Spot Commentaries that we prepare for the White House Situation Room.

5. All Washington area operations center chiefs have been polled on Mr. Collins' request, with unanimously negative results. All have agreed to provide unilateral alerting as described in the draft response.

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DOUGLAS J. MACEACHIN

Attachment:

Proposed letter to Foster Collins

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT****Routing Slip**

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI		<i>has seen</i>		
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS	✓			
5	DDI				
6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/EEO				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/OEA				
16	C/PAD/OEA				
17	SA/IA				
18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPD/OIS				
20					
21					
22					

**SUSPENSE**

Date

Remarks:

Executive Secretary

*3/1/82*

Date

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